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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : Not Yet Assigned
Applicant : **Markus VAN DER LAAN**
Filed : Concurrently Herewith
Title : **ACTUATING DEVICE FOR A
TOWING DEVICE ON A TUGBOAT**
International Application : No. PCT/NL2003/000935
International Filing Date : 24 December 2003
Priority Date Claimed : 24 December 2002

MAIL STOP PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.